spray whale, 25-yard eight lane competition area, 112-foot figure-eight water slide, drop slide, turf areas, shade ramadas, concession stand, sand volleyball court, sand play area with playground equipment, pool furniture and more.

# Best Neighbors

Chandler neighborhoods come in all shapes and sizes, with different features and needs. In 2005, two new Neighborhood Programs Administrators were hired to help organize neighborhood leaders and improve Chandler communities. Three popular Congress of Neighborhoods events took place, providing a direct forum for more than 380 neighborhood leaders.

#### Best At Catching The Bad Guys

An Auto Theft/Repeat Offender Program Unit was established in 2005. This unit addresses auto theft, and tracks and charges repeat offenders. The program has resulted in a 25 percent reduction in the number of stolen vehicles, compared with 2004, and vehicle burglary incidents have decreased as well, indicative of the success of the aggressive proactive enforcement approach.

## Best At Being There

Through cooperation and innovation the Police and Fire departments teamed up in 2005 to provide crisis response for the physical and psychological needs of victims. Volunteers provide information and resources, and serve as advocates to individuals who are victimized or threatened by violent crime.



We've all heard it: "The youth of today are tomorrow's leaders." Who can dispute it? We all take a role in raising today's youth to be responsible adults and decision makers. One of the traits that we usually

encourage is modesty, or more specifically, "It's not nice to brag." Sometimes, though, when you're recognized for making a difference, setting new standards or improving through innovation – you just have to let people know about it.

That's what this year's Annual Highlights Brochure is all about. We call it the "Best of Chandler" because it touts some awards that we've won and programs that we offer that set us apart from other communities. So many services are offered here dayin and day-out that are unique and innovative, but they go unnoticed because we don't want to brag. It's simply part of the Chandler mission to serve residents.

Please take a few minutes to review just a handful of the highlights from 2005. I think you'll agree that the "bests" add up to a top-rated community. We're all working together to make this great community even better for every generation. And, for the record, one of the highlights included is the prestigious "100 Best Communities for Young People" designation... I think our future leaders will do just fine.

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Boyd W. Dunn Mayor



City Council

Back row from left

Donna Wallace,

Lowell Huggins,

Vice Mayor Phillip Westbrooks,

Bob Caccamo

Front row from left Martin Sepulveda, Mayor Boyd W. Dunn, Matt Orlando



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Chandler, Arizona
State of the City Highlights
2005



# Best Place To Be "In The Know"

The City currently publishes seven electronic newsletters keeping subscribers "in the know" on road construction projects, public meetings, City news, library and performing arts happenings, and upcoming events in the community. More than 3,700 individuals currently receive the e-news. Go to chandleraz.gov, click e-services and "subscribe" for your passport to information.

#### Best Web Developments

A new tax and licensing system, e-Tax, was implemented to facilitate the collection and processing of the local transaction privilege tax. In addition to improvements such as electronic scanning and data capture of tax returns, the new system also allows customers to apply for a tax license, file tax returns, and make payments online.

Visitors at all four library locations are now able to receive fast, wireless Internet access through their own wireless-enabled laptop computer or PDA.

#### Best Place To Get Places

Not only did the City work with ADOT to complete the final phase of the Santan Freeway through Chandler, construction was also completed on several other major projects, improving traffic and accessibility. Portions of Riggs, Germann, and McQueen roads and Chandler Boulevard were widened to six lanes, and Ray Road received a third east-bound lane. The Arizona Avenue and Warner Road intersection received improvements, including the region's first transit queue jumper lanes through an arterial street intersection.



Airport had approximately 230,000 annual air traffic operations making it the 58th busiest airport, the 14th busiest general aviation airport, and the busiest FAA contract tower in the country.

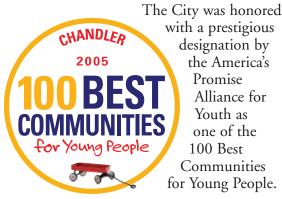
#### Best Places To Eat and Shop

Looking for someplace to grab a bite to eat, or shop 'til you drop? In addition to the local longtime favorites, several new shops and eateries moved into the City this year. Among them are: Kirkland's, Costco, and Someburros Mexican Food located at the Chandler Village Center just south of the Chandler Fashion Center. Sam's Club and Wal-Mart Super Center anchor the Santan Gateway power center located at



southeast corners of the Santan Freeway and Arizona Avenue. The Crossroads Towne Center located at the southwest corner of the Santan Freeway and Gilbert Road opened its first phase with a Wal-Mart Supercenter, Staples, Petsmart, and Arizona's first Sports Chalet. Another first for the City is Lexus of Chandler located next to Mercedes-Benz in West Chandler.

### Best Place To Grow Up



Businesses grow up in Chandler, too. Countrywide Home Mortgage is currently in phase two of construction. This financial services campus is expected to grow to 800,000 square feet when complete. And Intel announced plans to locate another fabrication facility in Chandler, representing \$3 billion in new capital investment, 1,000 new high quality jobs and 1 million square feet, currently under construction.

And buildings. The City's first high-rise building was approved by the Chandler City Council. Elevation Chandler will feature residential condominium and office space within its 15-stories near Chandler Fashion Center.

#### Best At Having Something Great And Making St Even Better

The holiday celebration in Downtown has always brought tradition together with community, as newcomers and long-timers join together for the Tumbleweed Tree Lighting. Hometown Holiday Lights was added to the celebration in 2005 with more than

100,000 holiday lights brightening Chandler's Historic Downtown.

#### Best Use of Water

More than 18.5 billion gallons of potable water was delivered to Chandler customers in 2005. To teach Chandler children the importance of water, the City began an annual water festival – the 2004 Make a Splash Water Festival received a Valley Forward Environmental Excellence Award of Merit in 2005.

The City's five Aquatic Centers provide another popular use of water. In 2005, Desert Oasis Aquatic Center, located at 1400 W. Summit Place, was renovated to include a zero depth area with kiddie slide, rain drop and

